

Application No.: 10/652748

Docket No.: TOW-040

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell comprising a pair of separators and electrolyte electrode assemblies interposed between said separators, said electrolyte electrode assemblies each including an anode, a cathode, and an electrolyte interposed between said anode and said cathode, wherein

each of said separators includes a first plate and a second plate stacked together;

said electrolyte electrode assemblies are interposed between one of said separators having said first and second plates and the other of said separators having said first and second plates;

a fuel gas channel for supplying a fuel gas to said anode, and an oxygen-containing gas channel for supplying an oxygen-containing gas to said cathode are formed between said first and second plates which are joined together;

a first ridge is formed on said first plate, and a second ridge is formed on said second plate, and said first ridge and said second ridge protrude away from each other to form said oxygen-containing gas channel between said first ridge and said second ridge;

said first plate includes a first outer projection and a first inner projection on opposite sides of said first ridge;

said second plate includes a second outer projection and a second inner projection on opposite sides of said second ridge; and

said first outer projection and said first inner projection protrude oppositely to said first ridge, and said second inner projection and said second outer projection protrude oppositely to said second ridge such that said first outer projection and said second outer projection are in contact with each other, and said first inner projection and said second inner projection are in contact with each other.

2. (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein

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said first ridge is formed integrally with said first plate, and extends around a curved outer section of said first plate;

said second ridge is formed integrally with said second plate, and extends around a curved outer section of said second plate;

said first outer projection and said first inner projection are formed integrally with said first plate; and

said second outer projection and said second inner projection are formed integrally with said second plate.

3. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell according to claim 2, wherein said first ridge formed on said first plate of said one of said separators is in contact with said second ridge formed on said second plate of the other of said separators to form an exhaust gas channel having an end closed between said separators.

4. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein a seal for sealing said oxygen-containing gas channel is formed between said first ridge formed on said first plate of said one of said separators and said second ridge formed on said second plate of the other of said separators.

5. (Original) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein said electrolyte electrode assemblies are arranged along at least one circle concentric with a central axis of said separators.